

MARRIAGE LAW CHANGE NEEDED

Contract Weddings Give Little Protection Because Filing of Papers with City Clerk Is Not Enforced.

New York's contract marriage law is badly in need of amendment, according to statements made to-day by officials of the City Clerk's office.

Since the measure was passed in 1901 there have been 2,674 marriage contracts filed with the City Clerk, making an average of seventy a month, or more than two marriages a day. A large number of marriage contracts are never filed, so the average is easily three a day.

The contract plan, based on the old common law, is the simplest possible way of getting married. The contracting couple go before a notary public with two witnesses and draw up a statement to the effect that they have agreed to "unite in the bonds of matrimony and become husband and wife." The notary affixes his name to the contract, hands it over to either the bride or bridegroom and it is supposed to be placed on file in the City Clerk's office.

It is not until it is filed that it becomes a public record, and the marriage could be disputed in case of property interests being involved after the death of one of the parties.

In its present form, the marriage contract plan does not really fulfill its mission, said Col. Charles B. Morton, of the City Clerk's office. "The law relating to marriage contracts is embodied in chapter 330 of the State laws pertaining to marriage."

"These laws first provide that marriage performed by ministers or other proper officials, must be recorded, and certain facts concerning the marriage, as yet these marriages are not necessarily established."

"It will cite an instance in a case which came to our attention not long ago. A young foreigner came to this country with a little money, fell into the hands of a 'gold brick' artist, and they after obtaining some of his money, laid plans to get the rest by having him marry a woman who was in the 'game.' This was done. The woman took the man's money and his contract, and fled. He came to us to get satisfaction, but there was no record of his marriage."

"Now, if there had been a law making it a misdemeanor not to record that marriage and making it obligatory on the part of the notary witnessing it to register the contract, those people would not have dared to thus conspire against that young foreigner, for they would have been found out."

A large percentage of those married by contract are foreigners. They are married at Ellis Island. The reason for this is that in the Latin-American countries a civil as well as a religious ceremony is required. For the benefit of these folk in particular there should be a proper amendment to the marriage contract law."

Ibsen Play a Puzzle.

"When We Dead Awake" Is Not Illuminating, Though Playwright Practically Invites You to Attend Your Own Funeral.

"There ought to be an explanatory note on the programme," remarked a perplexed female after the second act of "When We Dead Awake," at the Knickerbocker Theatre yesterday afternoon. She was blue in the face trying to solve the symbolism of the latest Ibsen play.

Her comment, not exactly complimentary to Maurice Campbell's Ibsen actors, had some justification. The performance was not an illuminating one. A person who had not read the play might be excused for being in the dark. Perhaps the lady who lamented the absence of an "explanatory note" made up her mind that though matches are made in heaven the sulphur is often of an inferior quality. Perhaps she went home on a surface car and gave her husband a cold supper and a piece of her mind for not having taken her high up in the mountains and shown her the glories of the world.

One Consolation, Anyhow.

Married people who may be made more miserable by learning the awful mistakes they have made in choosing mates may find consolation in the announcement that "When We Dead Awake" is Ibsen's last drama, an epilogue to the total of his modern plays. They might consider, too, that it was written when the Norwegian's years numbered seventy-one, at a time when he could hardly be accepted as an authority on the joys of married life. "When We Dead Awake" is less interesting than "Rosmersholm," "Hedda Gabler," "The Doll's House" or "Ghosts."

"What is irretrievably lost we only realize when we dead awake," says the Pale Lady.

"And what do we see then?" asks the awed sculptor, who has used her as a model for his figure "The Resurrection," and driven her crazy and into a vault because he did not manifest a more personal appreciation of her charms.

"We see," she answers in a hollow voice, "that we never have lived."

When the soul is dead, the being is dead. Ibsen cordially invites you to your own funeral, at the same time holding out the slim hope that you may enjoy a second time on earth—the time of your life—provided the right woman or the right man happens along.

Life Greater Than Art.

When Rubek, the sculptor, awakens to the realization that life is greater than art, he turns his shallow-pated wife over to a lusty hunter, and decides to take Irene, the pale one, into the high mountains, and show her the sights. The hunter is similarly disposed toward the sculptor's wife, "Hilde."

LIVING TOO HASTILY

AMERICAN WOMEN BREAK DOWN

Irregularities and Female Derangement Result Cured by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Owing to our mode and manner of living, and the nervous haste of every woman to accomplish just so much each day, it is said that there is not



Mrs. Chester Curry

one woman in twenty-five but what suffers with some derangement of the female organism, and this is the secret of so many unhappy homes.

No woman can be amiable, light-hearted and happy, a joy to her husband and children, and perform the duties incumbent upon her, when she is suffering with backache, headache, nervousness, sleeplessness, bearing-down pains, displacement of the womb, spinal weakness or ovarian troubles.

Irregularity and snappy retorts take the place of pleasantness, and all sunshine is driven out of the home, and lives are wrecked by woman's great enemy—womb trouble.

Read this letter:

Dear Mrs. Pinkham:—I was troubled for eight years with irregularities which broke down my health and brought on extreme nervousness and derangement. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound proved to be the only medicine which helped me. Day by day I improved in health until I was entirely cured. I can attend to my social and household duties and thoroughly enjoy life once more. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has made me a well woman, without an ache or a pain. Mrs. Chester Curry, 42 Saratoga Street, East Boston, Mass.

At the first indication of ill-health, painful or irregular menstruation, pain in the side, headache, backache, bearing-down pains, nervousness or "the blues," secure at once a bottle of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and begin its use.

Get the Habit, Wear

DUTCH TROUSERS

Prices, \$2 to \$4 a pair.

Brill Brothers

270 Broadway, near Chambers

47 Cortlandt, near Greenwich

175 N. 2nd St., near 1st St.

125th St., Corner Third Ave.

FOR FACTS AND FIGURES

SEE 1905 WORLD ALMANAC.

A Pill in Time

will save a serious sickness, especially to people subject to Bilious attacks, Sick Headaches or who suffer from Stomach disorders. A pill in time is a friend indeed, and you should never be without a box of

Beecham's Pills

Sold Everywhere. In boxes 10c. and 50c.

CANDY

THAT'S IT!!

SCHRADERS' SPECIALS

"FOR WEDNESDAY."

"FOR THURSDAY."

Peppermint Squares 10c. lb.

Assorted Chocolates 10c. lb.

Molasses Cuts 10c. lb.

Butter Scotch and Cinnamon Wafers 15c. lb.

Delicious Bonbon & Chocolate Mix 24c. lb.

Schraders

115 WEST 117th ST.

OPEN EVENINGS UNTIL 11 O'CLOCK.

A Dollar's Worth Free To Any Rheumatic Sufferer

I ask no deposit—no reference—no security. There is nothing to risk—nothing to promise—nothing to pay, either now or later. Any Rheumatic sufferer who does not know my remedy may have a full dollar's worth free to try.

I willingly make this liberal offer because I know that Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Remedy may be relied upon ALWAYS to bring the utmost relief that medicine can. Years before I discovered this remedy, I studied the nature of Rheumatism. For Rheumatism is really

Crystallized Poison!

Your blood is always full of poison—the poison you eat and drink and breathe into your system. It is the purpose of the blood to absorb and carry off this very poison. And the kidneys, which are the blood filters, are expected to cleanse the blood and send it back through the system clean, to nourish more poison, which, then, in turn, will absorb some other cause, the blood will be full of poison that they cannot absorb it all. This is the start of Rheumatism. The poison accumulates and crystallizes. The crystals are like little grains of sugar or of white salt. They increase in size. Then, when it can carry them no longer, it deposits them in a joint—or a bone—anywhere.

The twinge in your leg—the dull ache in your arm on a rainy day—these are the outward signs of the unseen crystals. And the (twisted) limbs and unbearable pain of the sufferer who has allowed his symptoms to go unchecked and unattended for years—these are the evidences of what Rheumatism has done.

Rheumatism includes lumbago, sciatica, neuritis, gout, all of these are the results of rheumatic poison in the blood. Plans the first thing to do is to remove the poison. But this is not enough. The REMEDY of the poison must be enough so that nature may have a chance to dissolve and eliminate the crystals which have already formed. Unless this is done there can be no cure—no permanent relief.

I searched the whole earth for a specific for Rheumatism—something that I or any physician could feel safe in prescribing—something that we could count on not to do occasional harm. But ALWAYS. For the ravages

Mild cases are sometimes cured by a single package. On sale at 40,000 drug stores.

Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Remedy

FOR SALE. FOR SALE.

3 Rooms Completely Furnished 49.98

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H.O'Neill & Co

Annual Half Price Picture Sale

Thursday, Friday and Saturday

In this sale which commences to-morrow morning we present a magnificent collection of Pictures—suitable for any room, hall or den, whether for city or suburban homes—gathered from the leading picture houses of Europe and America and marked for this event at

About Half Regular Prices.

Sale Commences 9 o'Clock Thursday Morning—Third Floor

Pastel Landscapes.

Framed in gold and hardwood ornaments—regular prices \$1.49 to \$20.00.

Special Prices 95c. to 9.98

Platino Photos.

Hand-painted, mounted in French gold frames and in hardwood shadow boxes—regular prices \$7.98 to \$25.00.

Special Prices 4.98 to 12.00

French Color Pictures.

A superb lot of pictures, mounted in a choice line of variegated mouldings—regular prices 25c. to \$6.98.

Special Prices 15c. to 2.49

Art Nouveau

or Poster effects—a fine collection showing the latest importations in Dutch oak frames—regular prices \$1.98 to \$9.98.

Special Prices 98c. to 4.98

Dining-Room Pastels

In an endless variety of fruit and game subjects, in all styles and finishes—of round, oval and fancy shapes—these are genuine works of art—regular prices \$1.25 to \$25.00.

Special Prices 75c. to 13.98

In addition to the above we will include all our Imported and Domestic Oil Paintings and Water Colors, among which are many fine productions of both European and American artists.

One Thousand Boys' and Youths' NEGLIGEE SHIRTS.

Made of Madras and Percale Cloths, neat, smart styles, sizes 12 to 14—cuffs attached and detached, some with collars, others without collars.

75c. grade at 45c

\$1.00 grade at 65c

— On Sale Thursday Morning, March 9, First Floor. —

Sixth Avenue, 20th to 21st Street.

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ROYAL FURNITURE CO.

OPEN EVENINGS UNTIL 11.

Cash or Credit.

DON'T MISS THIS BARGAIN.

This Entire Outfit at \$75.00

1 Velour Couch or 2 Chairs.

1 Couch Bed complete.

10 Yards Oldcloth.

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WOMEN'S RAINCOATS

Correct Models at Special Prices

SPECIAL FOR THURSDAY

New Rain Coats

(like cut)

Redingote models of finest imported and proof-twilled woads, trimmed with novelty braids—special for Thursday.

\$16.50.

Value \$22.00.

Another New Model

of herringbone twilled worsteds, self trimmed and plaited, satin lined yokes, in Oxford, olive and tans—Special for Thursday.

\$8.75.

Value \$12.00.

Hundreds of New Models in Women's Shirt Waists

Special for Thursday.

Persian Lawn Waists

(Like Cut.)

Perfectly tailored, made on dainty lines, trimmed with embroidery Anglaise.....

Value \$3.00.

An excellent new waist of Sheer Lawn, trimmed with open embroidery, as carefully tailored and shaped as the highest priced ones—Thursday.....

Value \$1.50.

Distinctive Dress Waists of Taffeta Silks, two toned or plain colors; several models in black, white and colors—Thursday.....

Value \$4.50.

All the Latest Styles in Untrimmed Millinery

(Second Floor.)

FANCY BRAID HATS.

Made on wire frames—latest models in Turbans, Toques, Tricorns, in black, brown, navy, champagne and green; value \$1.50, at.....

95c

TAILORED SUIT HATS.

Smartly trimmed with Velvets, Quills and Wing effects. Many of the styles produced in our own workrooms....

\$2.48, \$3.25, \$3.98

FLOWERS AND FEATHERS.

A most extensive line of Lilacs, Violets, Pansies, Chrysanthemums, Roses and Foliage.

IMPORTED ROSES, 15c per bunch of 3; value 25c.

IMPORTED MOSS BUDS, 25c per bunch.

IMPORTED FOLIAGE, 25c per bunch.

IMPORTED STRAW BRAIDS (all the new colors), 35c per dozen yards.

Silk Department

Thursday, March 9

3,500 Yards

Imported Chameleon Louisiana

In all the newest, up-to-date combinations of colorings for entire suits, separate Skirts and Waists—Special, per yard.....

A quality that usually retails at 98c.

69c

Splendid Undermuslin Values

\$1.25 Grades at 93c each

GOWNS—Of nainsook, cambric and muslin, high V, square, round and chemise effects, yokes of solid tucking, embroidery, insertions, hemstitching and lace.

CORSET COVERS—Of nainsook, trimmed with Val. and Point de Paris lace, insertions, beading and ribbon.

DRAWERS—In cambric and fine muslin, deep umbrellas ruffles trimmed with Point de Paris laces and insertions, finished with cluster tucking and embroidery beading, others trimmed with embroidery ruffles.

SKIRTS—Made extra full, trimmed with embroidery, cluster and space tucking.

CHEMISES—With and without skirts, with round yokes of embroidery and lace insertions, beading and ribbons; value \$1.25.....